

**DIANE DODD-McCUE, D.B.A.**

January 2, 2001

Ms. Renata Hesse  
Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, D.C. 20530

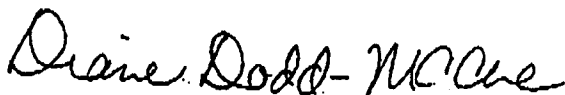
Dear Ms. Hesse:

I am writing you about the Microsoft settlement.

I find that the Microsoft settlement goes beyond the issues upheld on appeal, which may result in questionable future outcomes to individual users, companies, and industry. I find it hard to comprehend having a committee and the Court supervise the future of software design. The software industry, like many in our nation's long history of business successes, has soared because of the free market system, entrepreneurial spirit, and innovation. "Supervised" development could likely hinder this spirit and innovation in the future. Consumers have not been harmed by Microsoft's actions. To the contrary, innovations by Microsoft have given us better products and lower prices.

With 2002 comes reason for optimism as a nation, after the horrors of September, and optimism for the economy. The Microsoft settlement, while limited by the previously mentioned factors, still may serve as an impetus to move forward as opposed to remain bogged down in lengthy court actions. We all need to get back to work.

Yours truly,



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8107 University Drive Richmond, VA 23229 (804) 673-9723 E-Mail [HADDODD@hsc.vcu.edu](mailto:HADDODD@hsc.vcu.edu)